

REMARKS

The Office Action dated August 11, 2004 has been reviewed and carefully considered. Claims 1-30 remain pending, of which the independent claims remain 1, 9, 15, 19 and 23. Claim 15 has been amended, for better form on appeal, by merely adding in an inadvertently omitted phrase. The omitted phrase is apparent from the language of claim 1. No other amendment has been made.

Claims 1, 3-7, 9, 11-15, 17, 19-21, 23, 24 and 26-30 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,946,386 to Rogers et al. ("Rogers").

Claim 1 recites:

An apparatus for recording/reproducing a voice message in response to an incoming call to an exchange system, said apparatus comprising:
at least one subscriber unit for entering said voice message; and
an internet gateway arranged within an exchange system for recording/reproducing said voice message, said internet gateway comprising:
(i) a digital-signal-processor (DSP) having a plurality of ports as data communicating paths, said digital signal processor having buffer, a data compressor for compressing said voice message, and a data decompressor for decompressing said voice message stored in said buffer, and for outputting said voice message via one of said plurality of port;
(ii) a call processor for establishing a call connection between said subscriber unit and said internet gateway in response to said incoming call and for outputting port information indicating an available port among said plurality of ports;
(iii) a DSP manager coupled to said call processor for activating said available port of said digital-signal-processor in response to said port information;
(iv) a flash memory for storing said compressed voice message; and,
(v) a controlling circuit coupled to said flash memory for controlling the stored characteristics of said compressed voice message to be stored in said flash memory and for retrieving said voice message stored in said flash memory in said buffer in response to said incoming call from said telephone unit;

The Rogers reference fails to disclose or suggest the above-quoted features of the present invention.

As to claim 1, item 2 of the Office Action suggests that the DSP 208 of Rogers is the DSP of the present invention. Item 2 of the Office Action further suggests that the Rogers call management computer processor(s) 201 correspond to the “call processor” of the present claim 1. The Office Action is silent as to what it deems to correspond to the “ports” of the present invention.

The present claim 1 recites, “a digital-signal-processor (DSP) having a plurality of ports as data communicating paths.” Claim 1 further recites, “a call processor . . . for outputting port information indicating an available port among said plurality of ports” and “a DSP manager . . . for activating said available port of said digital-signal-processor.”

Although FIG. 4 of Rogers shows that the DSP 208 has a plurality of ports that includes Serial Port 0 to a 4-bit local data bus to the telephony signal busses 210, and a data port to a 16-bit data bus leading to the computer signal busses 211, the present applicant is unable to find support for the notion that the Rogers call management computer processor 201 outputs port information “indicating an available port among said plurality of ports.” It is unclear what in Rogers is “indicating an available port among said plurality of ports,” or for what purpose. For at least this reason, Rogers fails to anticipate the present invention as recited in claim 1.

Secondly, present claim 1 recites, “a flash memory.”

Item 2 of the Office Action suggests that the Rogers call management database 215 corresponds to the “flash memory” of the present claim 1.

The applicant is unable to find support in Rogers for such a notion. It is unclear to the applicant upon what basis an argument could properly be made that the Rogers database 215 inherently includes flash memory. For this reason too, Rogers fails to anticipate the present invention as recited in

claim 1.

Thirdly, item 2 of the Office Action is silent as to what in Rogers corresponds to the “controlling circuit” of the present invention and particularly the “controlling circuit . . . for controlling the stored characteristics,” and merely cites in Rogers to line 46 of column 9, and to lines 30-35 of column 11.

The cited passages, however, do not seem to disclose a “controlling circuit” that includes the features of element (v) of claim 1 of the present invention. For example, the second citation mentions a DSP playing out “one or more” voice messages. However, it is unclear how the disclosure in this passage relates to element (v) of the present claim 1. For this reason too, Rogers fails to anticipated the present invention as recited in claim 1.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

The applicant further notes that there apparently is no obvious modification of Rogers that would match the features of the present invention as recited in claim 1.

Claim 9 recites in at least elements (i), (ii), (iv) and (v) the above-quoted features of claim 1, and is likewise deemed to distinguish patentably over the cited reference.

Claim 15 recites in at least elements (i), (ii) and (iv) the above-quoted features of claim 1, and is likewise deemed to be patentable.

Claim 19 recites, “determining an available port of said DSP” and “storing . . . in . . . said flash memory,” and is deemed to be patentable.

Claim 23 recites the same above-quoted phrases from claim 19, and is also deemed to be patentable.

In summary, Rogers fails to anticipate any of the claims of the instant application.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

The applicant further notes that there apparently is no obvious modification of Rogers that would match the features of the present invention as recited in any of the claims of the present application.

Claims 2, 10, 16, 22 and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Rogers in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,426,942 to Sienel et al. ("Sienel").

Claims 2, 10, 16, 22 and 25 depend from claims 1, 9, 15, 19 and 23, respectively. Sienel relates to establishing a call connection, but cannot make up for the shortcomings of Rogers.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

Claims 8 and 18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Rogers.

As set forth above, Rogers fails to render obvious any of the present claims.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections are respectfully requested.

As to the other rejected claims, each depends from a respective base claim and is deemed to be patentable at least due to its dependency.

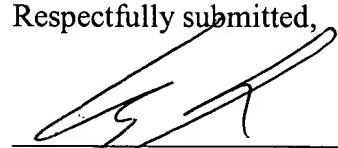
For all the foregoing reasons, it is respectfully submitted that all of the instant claims are patentable. A Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Amendment
Serial No.: 09/456,265

Docket No.: 5000-1-038

Should the Examiner deem that there are any issues which may be best resolved by telephone, please contact Applicant's undersigned representative at the number listed below. If there are any fees due and owing, please charge Applicants Deposit Account on file.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: November 5, 2004

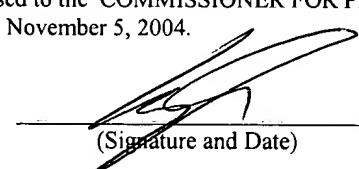
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(Signature and Date)